

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PUBLIC SAFETY

DATE: NOVEMBER 25, 2013

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS WOOD
GIRARD
MONTESI
TAYLOR
FRASIER
STRAINER

OTHERS PRESENT:

CHARLES WALLACE, ADMINISTRATOR OF FIRE PREVENTION & BUILDING
CODE ENFORCEMENT
BRIAN LAFLURE, FIRE COORDINATOR/DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF
EMERGENCY SERVICES
AMY DREXEL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
BUD YORK, WARREN COUNTY SHERIFF
C. SHAWN LAMOUREE, UNDERSHERIFF
MICHAEL GATES, CAPTAIN, CORRECTIONS DIVISION
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
PAUL DUSEK, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MARTIN AUFFREDOU, COUNTY ATTORNEY
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS DICKINSON
KENNY
MASON
VANSELOW
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
THOM RANDALL, *ADIRONDACK JOURNAL*
CHARLENE DiRESTA, SENIOR LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR BENTLEY

Mrs. Wood called the meeting of the Public Safety Committee to order at 10:01 a.m.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Girard and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Bud York, Warren County Sheriff, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing the agenda review, Sheriff York requested a contract with Lexis/Nexis in the amount of \$50,400 to provide mandated law library materials to the inmates in the Warren County Correctional Facility for a term commencing January 1, 2014 and terminating December 31, 2014.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Montesi and carried unanimously to authorize the contract with Lexis/Nexis as outlined above. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 20, 2013 Board Meeting.*

Sheriff York requested a contract with Capital Digitronics, Inc. in the amount of \$45,660 to provide preventative maintenance for communication equipment for a term commencing January 1, 2014 and terminating December 31, 2014. Mr. Strainer asked how often the company provided maintenance and Brian LaFlure, Fire Coordinator/Director of the Office of Emergency Services (OES), replied there was a schedule for preventative maintenance throughout the year and they were on-call for all of the tower side equipment.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Strainer and carried unanimously to authorize the contract with Capital Digitronics, Inc. as outlined above. *A copy of the resolution request form is on*

file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 20, 2013 Board Meeting.

Sheriff York requested a contract with Correctional Medical Care, Inc. in the amount of \$1,155,684 to provide medical, behavioral health, dental and ancillary services to inmates confined in the Warren County Jail for a term commencing January 1, 2014 and terminating December 31, 2014. Mr. Strainer asked if the inmates were transported to the dentist and Sheriff York replied the services were provided in-house. Mr. Strainer asked if the inmates were prescribed generic or brand name drugs and Sheriff York replied that generic drugs were prescribed unless unavailable.

Motion was made by Mr. Strainer, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously to authorize the contract with Correctional Medical Care, Inc. as outlined above. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 20, 2013 Board Meeting.*

Sheriff York requested a transfer of funds between various codes totaling \$229,000 in order to balance the budget for the remainder of the year. Mr. Montesi noted the majority of the transfers were for overtime salaries and he commented if additional officers were hired there would be less overtime usage. Sheriff York advised a staff analysis had been completed by the Corrections Commission and he was working on a plan which would result in the hiring of 13 additional officers.

Motion was made by Mr. Montesi, seconded by Mr. Girard and carried unanimously to approve the request for a transfer of funds as outlined above and to forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the Request for Transfer of Funds form is on file with the minutes.*

Mrs. Wood advised that the first Public Safety Committee meeting of 2014 would be held at the Warren County Jail and would include a tour of the facility. She said any Supervisor who was interested was welcome to attend.

Mr. Montesi commented there had been incidents with a disruptive member of the public at the Queensbury Town Board Meetings. He said he had requested the assistance of the Warren County Sheriff's Office and Sheriff York had complied, for which he thanked him. Sheriff York thanked Supervisors Montesi and Strainer for serving on the Public Safety Committee and said they would be missed.

This concluded the Sheriff and Communications portion of the Committee meeting and the OES portion of the meeting commenced at 10:06 a.m.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Mr. LaFlure, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing the agenda review, Mr. LaFlure requested approval and adoption of the Warren County Hazardous Materials Response Plan; *a copy of which is on file with the minutes.* Mrs. Wood stated that Amy Drexel, Deputy Director of the OES, had done an excellent job in putting the Plan together.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve and adopt the Warren County Hazardous Materials Response Plan as outlined above. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the December 20, 2013 Board Meeting.*

Mr. LaFlure informed the Risk Management Safety Committee had requested the replacement of their current on-campus radios due to them being obsolete. He said he had determined the cost of

purchasing 10 new radios to be approximately \$3,600 and he was requesting Committee approval for the purchase, as well as for a source of funding to be determined.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Strainer and carried unanimously to approve the request to purchase 10 radios for the Municipal Center Campus as outlined above and to forward same to the Finance Committee to determine a source of funding. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Pertaining to the pending item concerning the possible construction of a shelter to house OES vehicles and equipment, Mr. LaFlure advised he had been working with Frank Morehouse, Superintendent of Buildings, but had not come up with a viable solution yet. He informed the Glens Falls Fire Department had received a \$138,000 Technical Rescue Grant which would benefit the entire County. He advised the Washington County crew was installing the generator today at the Warren-Washington County Regional Emergency Training and Education Center.

Ms. Drexel informed that following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the Federal and New York State Governments had revised laws regarding having a Special Needs Registry. She said Warren County OES had begun working on a Special Needs Registry in 2006. She said the previous Registry had involved forms which were filled out and a software program which was not user friendly. She apprised that a year and a half ago she began working with the Information Technology Department and Dan Durkee, Health Educator, on ways the system could be improved. She added the new system went active on the Warren County website less than one month ago. She noted the website contained links under Public Health and OES to the Special Needs Registry.

Mr. Montesi asked the number of Warren County residents that qualified as Special Needs and Ms. Drexel replied that often these were elderly and extremely unhealthy residents. She noted the list was constantly changing due to several factors. She explained the new system would notify anyone on the list on an annual basis to determine if they still qualified as Special Needs. Discussion ensued.

This concluded the OES portion of the Committee meeting and the Fire Prevention & Building Code Enforcement portion of the meeting commenced at 10:13 a.m.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Charles Wallace, Administrator of Fire Prevention & Building Code Enforcement, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.* Mrs. Wood welcomed Mr. Wallace to his first Committee meeting as Administrator.

Commencing the agenda review, Mr. Wallace reviewed the Budget Performance Report dated November 22, 2013 with the Committee members; *a copy of same is on file with the minutes.* Pertaining to the Monthly Activity Report for the month of October, Mr. Wallace commented 127 permits had been issued and a total of \$20,916 in revenues collected. Year to date, he continued, 853 permits had been issued for a total of \$142,757 in fees collected. He mentioned the amount of permits issued in 2013 to date represented an 8% increase in the number of permits issued during the same time period in 2012 and the fees collected to date reflected a 9% increase compared to the same time period in 2012. Mr. Wallace stated as of November 21, 2013 the Department had met the anticipated revenues with \$161,421 year to date. He anticipated exceeding the budgeted revenues by approximately \$20,000 by the end of the year.

Mr. Wallace stated all of the vacant positions had been filled in the Department. He reported some scheduling changes had been made in order to operate more efficiently. He noted permits were

reviewed within one to two days on average. He reported one employee was out on disability for a shoulder replacement in December and he noted the possibility of that employee retiring in January.

Pertaining to Fire Safety, Mr. Wallace said they were trying to inspect some of the businesses which may have been missed in prior years. He advised construction had commenced on the Price Chopper Complex in the Town of Lake George. He said the plans for the Hudson Headwaters Health Network Building in the Town of Warrensburg had been reviewed and they were waiting for the construction bids to be reviewed and the contract to be awarded.

According to the Monthly Activity Report, Mr. Montesi said there had been 59 demolitions between January and October. He noted there had been a fire at a garage in the Town of Queensbury in February and the Queensbury Building Department had issued a demolition permit for the garage but New York State had requested asbestos testing and abatement prior to demolition. He asked how demolitions were handled on the County level and Mr. Wallace responded the Department advised the building owner of the possibility of being required to test and abate such things as asbestos or lead. Mr. Wallace stated the Department issued the demolition permits but it was up to the building owner to check on the requirements for testing and abatement.

As there was no further business to come before the Public Safety Committee on motion made by Mr. Strainer and seconded by Mrs. Frasier, Mrs. Wood adjourned the meeting at 10:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene DiResta, Senior Legislative Office Specialist